



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

"The oldest continuously operating Amateur Radio Club in the United States"

February 2014 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

March 14: "T33A Banaba Island Dxpedition", presented by Team member N9NS, Mike Goode.

Highlights from the February Meeting:

The February 14 meeting was canceled due to unsafe road conditions.

Ham Radio News:

IRC 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS FOR 2014

March 14: 1950 to 1970 History of the Club
April 11: 1970 to 1980 History of the Club
May 2: Indiana QSO Party Sponsor. Club station of W9JP/100 will be a bonus station.
May 9: 1980 to 1990 History of the Club
June 13: 1990 to 2000 History, along with annual auction
June 28 – 29: W9JP/100 Field Day at Camp Belzer
July 12: Special Display at Indianapolis Hamfest
July 17 – 19: ARRL 100th anniversary celebration
August 2: W9JP Picnic and Tailgate Hamfest at Camp Belzer
September 12: 2000 to 2014 History of the Club
October 10: 100th Year Dinner with ARRL speaker, W9JP/100 Special Event, and 1914 to 2014 History of the Club presentation.

CLASSES IN HENDRICKS COUNTY

Hendricks County Hams are conducting classes at the Hendricks County Senior Citizens Building located at 1201 Sycamore Ln. in Danville, right behind the Hendricks Regional Hospital. The classes meet on Wednesdays, and run from 7pm-9pm, and cover all license classes. The class runs for 9 weeks and is free to take, but the cost for testing is \$12.00 (cash only, please). If you are interested in taking the class or if you are interested in helping out with the class, contact Jay Wright, KK9L, at 317-203-3335 for more information.

BEURT SERVAAS, W9WVO, SK

Beurt SerVaas, W9WVO, of Indianapolis, Indiana, died February 2. He was 94. Known as the politician who revamped Indianapolis and Marion County politics, he presided over the City-County Council for three decades. Outside of Indianapolis politics, though, he may be best remembered as the person whose publishing company rescued *The Saturday Evening Post* magazine in the 1970s and moved it to Indianapolis.

Bert was very active in amateur radio, operating from his station at home. With his support *The Saturday Evening Post* sponsored a Dxpedition to Gibraltar and carried an article about the experience. He played an integral role in establishing the W87PAX Special Event Station at the 1987 PAN-AM Games held in Indianapolis and the W9IMS Indianapolis Motor Speedway Special Event Station, that continues to be very successful to this day.

For more details, see the very nice write-up on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/news/indianapolis-entrepreneur-politician-publisher-beurt-servaas-w9wvo-sk>.

STAN KIDWELL, KC9CTQ, SK

Stan Kidwell, KC9CTQ, of Brownsburg, passed away on January 26. The full obituary can be seen at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/indystar/obituary.aspx?n=stanley-r-kidwell&pid=169366119&fhid=14562>.

DAYTON BUS PLANS

Again this year, the Indianapolis Radio Club has made arrangements to have a chartered bus to the Dayton Hamvention. The day trip to Dayton will be on Saturday, May 17. The bus will have two pick up points: 6:30 am at Southern Plaza, and pick up around 7:00 am at Peddler's Mall on the east side. It will leave from Dayton around 4:00 pm. As

in the past, there will be a short stop at McDonald's in Richmond on the way to Dayton for breakfast, and a dinner stop at MCL in Richmond on the way back. The cost for the round trip is \$30 per person, and does not include admission to the Hamvention. The bus will drop off at the front door of Hara Arena, and be parked in close proximity of the facility so items can be stored on the bus for your convenience. Tickets for admission to the Hamvention are available on their website at <http://www.hamvention.org/tickets.php>.

FCC RETIRING TRANSITION WEB PAGE

The FCC has announced that it is transitioning away from its so-called "transition website" front page, which has been in place for the last 3 years. The Commission said the move, starting February 3, is in line with its plans to gradually wean users from the transition website.

"All content formerly on the old transition front page - including links to our most popular tools and resources - is available on the FCC.gov home page, and personal bookmarks to items once featured on the old page will continue to work," the FCC has said. "Starting February 3, the transition front page will redirect automatically to the FCC.gov home page at <http://www.fcc.gov/>. For those who continue to use transition.fcc.gov, please note that this action affects only one page of the transition site - the front page."

NUMBER OF AMATEUR LICENSEES CONTINUES TO GROW

The Amateur Radio population in the US continues to show steady growth, according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A. As of the end of 2013, the FCC database showed 717,201 licenses in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). That's the greatest number of US hams ever, and it's up from 709,575 in December 2012. The volume of Amateur Radio applications slowed somewhat to 141,943 from its zenith of 176,826 in 2007, the year the FCC dropped the Morse code requirement.

"The three current license classes also peaked at the end of 2013," notes ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "FCC-issued club station licenses are also at an all-time high in the FCC database at 11,363. The number of new licensees has increased by 7 percent over last year -- 28,886 in 2013 and 27,082 in 2012."

TRAGIC TOWER COLLAPSE

On Saturday February 1, 2014 at 11:30AM a tragedy struck North Central West Virginia. A radio tower collapsed killing two tower workers and bringing down a second tower resulting in the death of an emergency responder from falling debris. Two other tower workers at a lower height suffered minor injuries.

The towers are an important link in maintaining cell service and repeaters for several commercial companies in the area. The towers also were in use by the Amateur Radio community with three repeaters located on the towers. One VHF repeater (147.210MHz) and one UHF repeater (444.175MHz) were located on the tower. A third Link repeater was also located on the tower serving the HAMTALK System which links 5 VHF repeaters located in north central West Virginia. These Amateur repeaters are a major part of the north central West Virginia Emergency Communications to assist the Office of Emergency Management of Harrison County, FEMA, and the ARC.

These three repeaters are associated with the Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association (SJARA) which has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Harrison County Commission, the city of Clarksburg and the city of Bridgeport, WV to assist in any way during all emergency situations requiring communications. The SJARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club and a Special Service Club. The Vice President of SJARA (N8YPE) is the Harrison County Emergency Coordinator for ARES.

SJARA is a 501(c) organization and would appreciate any monetary assistance since it is a very small club with limited resources. If anyone would like to help with donations please address them to "REPEATER" SJARA PO Box 752, Clarksburg, WV 26301. The club's website is at <http://www.sjara.org/>.

GEAR FOR SALE

Apache ANAN-10 SDR 10 watt transceiver - like new.

Retail: \$1695.00 plus shipping.

Hank's price: \$1250.00 delivered and set up on your computer.

Contact: Hank - K9LZJ ---- hwolfla@gmail.com

317-861-0186

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@ar1.net

Signals from the Past:

From the February, 1960 *Amachewer*:

During the last few years, we have all heard or read about everybody going commercial, not experimenting, returning their gear to the factory for repair, etc, which gave the impression that all was lost to those few that “roll their own”. Of course, we're kidding ourselves if we try to think that this is only a temporary trend, because the old demon “commercial gear” is here to stay, and for some very good reasons, but it is important that we don't become stagnant.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- February 22, 2014: Brownsburg Hamfest. More info at http://hcars.org/sites/hcars.org/files/Brownsburg_Hamfest2014.pdf
- March 8: WVARA (Terre Haute) Hamfest. More info at <http://w9uuu.org/hamfest.html>
- March 29: Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Community Building in Columbus, 8:00 am until noon.
- May 16 – 18: Dayton Hamvention. More information at <http://www.hamvention.org>

2014 Officers:

- President: Dave Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL n9kt@arrl.net
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL ws9h.indy@gmail.com
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL k9xv@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL gskoll@msn.com
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL rosterhous@iquest.net
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@lightbound.com

